

# Maricopa Initiates Project REDCAP

On March 16, Helen Purcell, Maricopa County Recorder announced at a meeting of the Arizona State Bar Business Law Section, that Project REDCAP had officially begun.

Purcell explained to the membership that the new project, which was officially launched on Tuesday March 14 is designed to create digital images and indices of all documents recorded since the first Maricopa County recording in 1871.

REDCAP (Recorder's Election's Document Conversion Archival Project) will feature the conversion of approximately 68 million images from either a paper or microfilm format to multi-page tiff images. Currently, the Recorder's Office retains digital images of all documents recorded after September 1991 and a digital index of all documents recorded after 1968 – all of which are

presently available for search and purchase via the internet.

“After completion of REDCAP, all documents recorded with our office will be available for search and purchase via the internet. The image conversion phase for this project is expected to be completed by early October, 2005,” said Purcell, “with the indexing phase to be completed over the next year.”

When asked about imaging enhancement of the older documents, Purcell responded that since some of the older microfilm was created with outdated techniques, AmCad, an outside vendor, was retained because they have the film enhancing capability of creating the best possible image. She also said that her office anticipates the project to be complete by late 2006.